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DCI/RM-78-0067
14 November 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
VIA: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence
FROM: [REDACTED]
Deputy to the DCI for Resource Management
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] Memo on the OMB Project SAFE

I am forwarding the memo that George wrote with a couple of qualifications and personal reservations. These are:

o It is not clear that OMB will make a serious run at the SAFE funding this year. They might; Jim Taylor told me that [REDACTED] feels strongly that DIA and CIA ought to be divorced on this issue once again. However, OMB is challenging a lot of other things, and we do not have a reading yet on which issues are serious and which issues they will back away from early. Therefore, [REDACTED] memo is a little premature, but you might as well have some early warning.

o I also disagree a bit with the tone. I want to keep your prestige and the prestige and effectiveness of RMS separate from the success of the SAFE project as much as possible. I recognize that separation is hard and that it will get harder, but I want to avoid getting into a position where we are under pressure to proceed with SAFE even after there may be good evidence that it is a dumb thing to do. [REDACTED] feels that our prestige and effectiveness are already on the line; I hope they are not.

o I do, however, generally endorse [REDACTED] view. But there is still the problem that both partners to the marriage are skeptical about the future of the match and their skepticism makes success harder to attain.

Attachment:

Subject Memo

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SUBJECT: OMB Issue on Project SAFE

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